reasons, fuel monitoring and tankering, review of uneconomic flights, inventory management, outsourcing of services wherever feasible/economical.

Changes in Life Insurance Laws

897. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the law Commission has called for sweeping changes in life insurance laws in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c)whether necessary amendments are being brought forward in insurance laws in conformity with these recommendations; if so, by when; and

(d) whether the interest of the policy holders would be adequately protected in the new legislation and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (d) The Law Commission of India has informed that it has undertaken the study of "Revision of the Insurance Act, 1938 and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999". The Commission has prepared a consultation paper on the subject and has circulated it to the concerned persons/ organisations to elicit their views on it. Thereafter, the Commission would finalise its recommendations and forward its report to the Government.

Routing of Funds Through State Governments

898. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a recent decision of the Ministry of Finance for routing the funds through the State Governments instead of direct transfer of funds to the implementing agencies, would adversely affect the progress of schemes like 'Sampoorna Gramin Swarozgar Yojana,' Swajaldhara', 'Hariyali' etc; and

(b) if so, what advantages are likely to accrue by adopting this scheme and whether views of Ministries Like Health, Education and Rural Development were taken into consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) It has been since decided that funds under Centrally Sponsored Schemes be released directly to the implementing agencies, as before, instead of being routed through State Governments.

(b) Does not arise.

Inclusion of Majuli Island in World Heritage Site

899. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of tentative World Heritage List prepared by ASI;

(b) whether Majuli Island is in the tentative list of ASI for World Heritage site;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the status of Majuli towards nomination as World Heritage site under Cultural landscape category during 2004?

THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) The Tentative List of Sites is at present under revision. However, Majuli Island is already included.

(d) The nomination dossier for Majuli Island is under preparation. For 2004, nomination dossier for group of medieval monuments at Champaner in Gujarat has already been sent to World Heritage Centre for consideration.

New pension scheme for central government employees

900. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) by when Government are going to set up new pension fund to operationalise new pension scheme for the Central Government employees;